

Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker 2014-15

Fusion Lifestyle Annual Service Plan 2015/16 – Scrutiny Committee 23 March				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. We recommend that a more ambitious performance target is adopted for increasing the participation of users resident in the most deprived wards in our city (the existing proposal is for the target to increase from 110,000 visits in 2014/15 to 114,000 visits in 2015/16).	Y	We will liaise with Fusion and report at CEB what we feel is doable.	Cllr Mike Rowley / Ian Brooke	2 April 2015
2. We recommend that a more ambitious performance target is adopted for increasing the participation of disabled users (the existing proposal is for the target to increase from 15,000 visits in 2014/15 to 16,000 visits in 2015/16).	Y	We will liaise with Fusion and report at CEB what we feel is doable.	Cllr Mike Rowley / Ian Brooke	2 April 2015
3. We recommend that the City Council continues to work with Fusion Lifestyle to remove barriers to participation for our target groups, for example by seeking to extend crèche provision at Council leisure facilities.	Y	Agreed - it describes what we're doing and intend to keep doing.	Cllr Mike Rowley / Ian Brooke	TBC
4. We recommend that the utility consumption performance target is changed to a carbon reduction target, measured on a per user basis. This could be in line with the City Council's corporate target of reducing carbon emissions by 5% per annum.	Y	Happy to report on a per user basis for carbon.	Cllr Mike Rowley / Ian Brooke	2 April 2015
Living Wage – Scrutiny Committee 2 March				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. We recommend that the City Council surveys all suppliers to measure compliance with paying the Oxford Living Wage.	Y	We should make every effort to ensure that our contractors are paying the Living Wage, but it may be difficult to	Cllr Bob Price / Simon Howick & Jane	Nov 2015

		achieve a full coverage of the very large number of suppliers, some of which provide very small volumes.	Lubbock	
2. We recommend that the City Council reviews whether the Oxford Living Wage should continue to be set at 95% of the London Living Wage.	Y	The original figure was determined on the basis of a comparison of housing and transport costs in Oxford and London. It should be possible to repeat that exercise. The Council motion which committed us to the LW, proposed a £7 OLW against the £7.20 LLW, taking account of the work undertaken by the original research by Loughborough University and the Mayor of London and using Oxford housing and transport data. That relationship was subsequently translated into a 95% figure, in order to ensure that the OLW was maintained in line with a figure for the LLW that was well researched and supported by time series evidence. This percentage link makes the administration of the OLW straightforward and avoids the need for complex research to be undertaken locally at regular intervals.	Cllr Bob Price / Simon Howick & Jane Lubbock	Nov 2015
3. We recommend that the City Council seeks to increase apprentice pay in the next budget round.	N	This issue was considered carefully at the time of the decision on apprentice pay. The current apprenticeship rates are well above the national rates, but a move to the OLW would result in a reduction in the number of apprenticeships.	Cllr Bob Price / Simon Howick & Jane Lubbock	N/A

4. We recommend that the City Council actively explores the merits of incentivising businesses to pay the Oxford Living Wage through offering business rate discounts.	Y	We should consider this, but there are difficult issues of practical implementation as well as a potentially significant cost to the Council's budget.	Cllr Bob Price / Simon Howick & Jane Lubbock	Nov 2015
5. We recommend that the City Council seeks to be more pro-active in engaging with employers and encouraging them to pay the Oxford Living Wage. This could also involve raising the profile of the Oxford Living Wage on the City Council website and listing employers that have committed to paying it.	Y	As the portfolio holder, I have written to all the major employers to encourage them to pay the Living Wage and have engaged with many of them in the course of my visits to them over the past two and a half years. The suggestions about the website and employer listings are very good ones and will be adopted.	Cllr Bob Price / Simon Howick & Jane Lubbock	Nov 2015
Culture Strategy – Scrutiny Committee 2 March				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
1. We recommend that there is an objective to extend cultural opportunities to excluded communities under priority for culture 2.	Y	Section 2 of the Strategy states that 'We are committed to providing and supporting opportunities for all of Oxford's residents to engage with arts and cultural events and activities, with a particular focus on work which reaches our young people and diverse communities.' and 'Our aim- working with our partners in the cultural sector- is to increase access from all our communities to good quality cultural opportunities and events, at affordable prices, in a range of venues and locations'.	Christine Simm / Peter McQuitty	April 2015

		This represents a clear and robust commitment to working with all communities including excluded groups. However, the phrase 'including excluded groups' could be inserted after 'increase access from all our communities' to strengthen the point.		
2. We recommend that the City Council asks Experience Oxfordshire to convene a seminar with elected members.	Y	Excellent suggestion which will be actioned within the next two months, giving the new incumbent a little time to settle in to her new role.	Christine Simm / Peter McQuitty	May2015
Discretionary Housing Payment Policy – Scrutiny Committee 2 March				
Recommendations	Agreed Y/N	Executive response	Lead Member & Officer	Implemented Y/N / due date
We recommend that the City Executive Board approve the revised Discretionary Housing Payment Policy.	Y	<i>An update paper will come to Scrutiny and CEB at the end of quarter 2 at the latest.</i>	Susan Brown / Paul Wilding	Y